

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 141244

E.O. 1165P: GDS ; TAGS: SP, US, ECON

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S BILATERAL WITH FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE SECRETARY MET WITH SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR ROVIRA AND MR. PICO DE COANA, JUNE 2. ALSO PRESENT WERE AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TODMAN AND EUR/WE NOTETAKER. THE SECRETARY SAID WE WOULD GIVE SPAIN FURTHER HELP ON THE CANARY ISLANDS QUESTION BEFORE THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT. (SEPTTEL). HE SAID THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE IS STILL BEING WORKED OUT AND WE WILL GET BACK IN TOUCH WITH OREJA ON A POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO MADRID; MEANWHILE WE SHOULD DEFER A DECISION ON WHEN TO HOLD THE NEXT SPAIN-U.S. COUNCIL MEETING. HE ALSO BRIEFED OREJA ON THE NATO SUMMIT AND SAID HE WOULD TALK WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY (TREASURY) BERGSTEN ABOUT THE COUNTERVAILING DUTY MATTER. OREJA BRIEFED THE SECRETARY ON SPAIN'S CONSTITUTIONAL CALENDAR AND ON SPANISH CONSIDERATION OF MEMBERSHIP IN NATO (SEPTTEL). END SUMMARY.

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2. KING'S FAR EAST TRIP: OREJA OPENED BY EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THIS CHANCE TO SEE THE SECRETARY BECAUSE HE (OREJA) IS RETURNING TO MADRID JUNE 3 IN ORDER TO PREPARE TO ACCOMPANY KING JUAN CARLOS ON HIS TRIP TO CHANA (IRAN, JUNE 14-15; PEKING AND SHANGHAI JUNE 16-20, AND IRAQ ON THE RETURN.)

3. SPANISH POLITICAL PROCESS: OREJA SAID THE "CONGRESS" (LOWER HOUSE OF SPANISH PARLIAMENT) WILL PROBABLY FINISH APPROVING THE NEW CONSTITUTION BY THE END OF JUNE OR IN EARLY JULY. THE SENATE WILL THEN WORK THROUGH THE SUMMER ON THE CONSTITUTION, FINISHING PERHAPS IN LATE AUGUST. THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE SENATE FINISHED, A REFERENDUM WILL BE HELD, THAT IS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER OR IN OCTOBER. THE MAIN POINT IS THAT THERE IS WIDE CONSENSUS ON ALL MAJOR MATTERS AND THE WHOLE PROCESS IS GOING WELL. ON THE IMPORTANT QUESTION OF THE MONARCHY ITSELF, ALL PARTIES (INCLUDING THE COMMUNISTS) VOTED FOR IT EXCEPT THE SOCIALISTS, WHO ABSTAINED. THE SECRETARY EXPRESSED OUR ADMIRATION FOR THE WAY SPAIN HAS BEEN ABLE TO HANDLE ITS POLITICAL TRANSITION.

4. PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: OREJA SAID SPAIN IS LOOKING FORWARD TO A VISIT BY PRESIDENT CARTER. THE KING PERSONALLY VERY MUCH WOULD LIKE THE PRESIDENT TO COME. THE SECRETARY SAID THE PRESIDENT WOULD LIKE TO COME IF IT IS AT ALL POSSIBLE. WE ARE TRYING TO SEE HOW IT MIGHT BE FITTED INTO HIS SCHEDULE. THUS FAR, THE SCHEDULING IS PROVING VERY HARD TO WORK OUT. WE WILL GET BACK IN TOUCH WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON THIS LATER.

5. SPAIN-U.S. COUNCIL MEETING: OREJA NOTED THAT A DATE NEEDED TO BE SET FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. THE SECRETARY

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TARY SAID HE KNEW A MEETING IS DUE BUT THAT A DECISION ON TIMING SHOULD AWAIT A DECISION ON A POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. IF THE PRESIDENT DOES GO TO MADRID, A COUNCIL MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE AT THE SAME TIME. OREJA AGREED.

6. CANARY ISLANDS AND OAU SUMMIT: THE SECRETARY SAID THE U.S. WOULD DO WHAT IT COULD WITH VARIOUS AFRICAN COUNTRIES (ESPECIALLY NIGERIA, SIERRA LEONE AND LIBERIA) TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO PREVENT PROPOSALS ENDORSING CANARIES INDEPENDENCE OR SEPARATION FROM ARISING OR BEING APPROVED AT THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT. (SEE SEPTTEL).

7. COUNTERVAILING DUTIES: THE SECRETARY INTRODUCED THE SUBJECT, SAYING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BERGSTEN HAD JUST BEEN IN MADRID AND HAD DISCUSSED THE COUNTERVAILING DUTY PROBLEM WITH GOS OFFICIALS WHILE THERE. THE SECRETARY SAID HE WOULD TALK WITH BERGSTEN ABOUT THIS ISSUE NEXT WEEK (JUNE 5-9). OREJA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION.

8. NATO SUMMIT, GEBRALTAR AND SHABA: THE SECRETARY REVIEWED WITH OREJA THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE NATO SUMMIT AND

NOTED THE ALLIANCE MEMBERS' CONCERNS OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA, PRIMARILY SHABA. OREJA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE BRIEFING, REVIEWED DOMESTIC SPANISH ATTITUDES TOWARD NATO, SAID A SOLUTION OF GIBRALTAR PROBLEM WOULD ENHANCE THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO BRING SPAIN INTO NATO, AND SAID SPAIN WOULD BE GLAD TO HELP ANY WAY IT COULD ON THE GENERAL AFRICAN SITUATION. (DETAILS IN SEPTTEL) CHRISTOPHER

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